

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 96-358-C - ORDER NO. 97-40
JANUARY 14, 1997

✓
3

IN RE: Request of AT&T Communications of the) ORDER
Southern States, Inc. for Arbitration) APPROVING
of its Interconnection Agreement with) PLAN
BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.)

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the "Commission") upon the Petition of AT&T Communications of the Southern States, Inc. ("AT&T") for Arbitration of the proposed Interconnection Agreement between AT&T and BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth") under the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the "Act"). This Docket was established in order proceed with the requested Arbitration, and certain scheduling is required in advance of the Arbitration hearing. We hereby adopt the following schedule and procedures for this Arbitration:

1. The Arbitration hearing in this Docket shall begin at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, February 3, 1997.
2. AT&T shall prefile its testimony in this matter on or before January 6, 1997.
3. BellSouth shall prefile its testimony on or before January 20, 1997.
4. The Parties (AT&T and BellSouth), as well as any Participants in this matter, may submit a nonbinding list of questions to the "Arbitrator" (the Commission) on or before

January 27, 1997.

5. Opening statements of the Parties and Participants will be allowed at the beginning of the hearing.

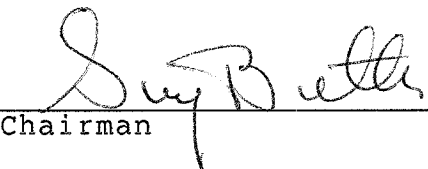
6. Direct testimony and exhibits from the Parties' witnesses shall be presented to the "Arbitrator" in a panel format (all witnesses will be sworn concurrently).

7. Examination of the witnesses shall be conducted by the "Arbitrator" or its designee (the Commission legal staff). Cross-examination may be directed to specific witnesses or to the entire panel.

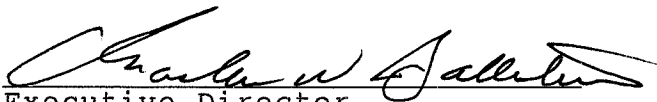
8. Closing statements of the Parties and Participants will be allowed at the conclusion of the hearing.

The Commission reserves the right to amend or modify the plan and procedures for Arbitration if it deems such action necessary. The Commission also will follow the Arbitration Plan established in prior Arbitration Dockets. This matter shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Chairman

ATTEST:


Executive Director

(SEAL)